

Idaho Association of Counties Juvenile Justice Administrators

Meeting Minutes— April 9th 2026

Location-Evergreen Hotel, McCall Idaho

900 am MST to 1200 pm MST

Open Meeting & Welcome by President: Brian Beck

Introduction: Brian Beck

Attendance

In Person: Mark Gough, Sarah Reynolds, Sky Taylor, Darin Burrell, Jose Orozco, Carol Johnson, Mario Umana, Shawn Hill, Kelly Elkington, Brian Beck, Chris Potter, Eric Sheffield, Jeremy Roth, Tim Howley, Jeremiah O'Brien, DeeDee Phillips, Lael Hansen, Nadine McDonald, Devin Simmon, Mark Bell, Ron Stultz, Leahann Romero, Heather Chapman

Zoom: Shawn Winston, Ivy Smith, JD Storm, Tom Fitte, Aletia Straub Workman, Stace Gearhart, Dixie Tate, Brian Alexander, Anya Fox, Kevin Sandau, Alicia Baptiste, Jeff Miller, Todd Mauger, Ryan Grayson, Dustin Bingham, Shannon Carter, Sean Brown, Shane Boyle, Roy Bullington, Seth Scott

Action Items:

- Review/Approval of January 29th 2026 minutes - **1st Mark Gough 2nd Tim Howley**
- Approval of Meeting expenses - **1st Mario Umana 2nd Ron Stultz**
- Vote on process to fill seat on POST Council and putting together a subcommittee to support the seat. - **1st Mark Gough 2nd Tim Howley**
- Nominations for IACJJA President, Vice President, and Secretary: **Nominations will take place at the June 1st meeting in Nampa**

Non-Action Items/ Presentation:

- **Anya Fox- Reassurance Solutions Presentation**

Reassurance Solutions delivered a presentation outlining two technological products designed to enhance safety and reduce response times within correctional facilities by providing continuous health and movement monitoring for individuals in custody.

1. Contactless Vital-Monitoring Sensor

- This FDA-cleared, Class II medical device is mounted on a wall or ceiling and uses radar-based technology to measure micro-vibrational patterns produced by cardiac and respiratory activity.
- The device captures vital signs every 3–6 seconds without requiring physical contact and automatically enters vital-monitoring mode when motion ceases.
- It provides early detection of potential overdose or self-harm events by analyzing changes in breathing and heart rate patterns.
- All data collected is HIPAA-compliant and permanently stored.
- The sensor costs approximately \$4,000 per unit, with an annual maintenance fee of about \$1,080.

- Installation requires an Ethernet connection and a gateway capable of supporting two sensors.
- 2. **Wearable Monitoring Device**
 - This device measures heart rate, oxygen saturation, skin temperature, movement, and real-time location.
 - Data is transmitted via Bluetooth to ceiling-mounted anchors.
 - The wearable is tamper-resistant, waterproof, and designed for easy sanitization, with a battery life of up to six months.
 - It can function independently or integrate with the radar sensor system.
 - There is no upfront cost for the wearable itself; required Bluetooth anchors cost between \$300 and \$500 each.
 - Annual service fees range from \$450 to \$1,000 per wearable, depending on selected features.
- 3. **Monitoring Dashboard**
 - The system includes a real-time, color-coded dashboard designed for correctional and medical staff.
 - Status indicators include: green for normal, orange for out-of-range but active vitals, and red for urgent response.
 - Alert thresholds can be customized by facility medical personnel.
- 4. **Deployment and Support**
 - The technology is currently deployed across multiple states, with continued expansion underway.
 - Reassurance Solutions provides 24/7 technical support and on-site replacements if devices are damaged or tampered with.
 - Despite widespread deployment, only a small number of sensors have been successfully removed from walls, and none have been compromised internally.

Contact information: <https://reassurancesolutions.com/>

- **Jerimiah O'Brien- S1259**

1. **Statutory Authority**
2. **What legally defines an Arrest and how that falls into a grey area of liability in Idaho**
3. **JPO Training both by POST and by Sister agencies**
4. **Cost and concerns and budget impacts**

Jerimiah provided a detailed overview of the legal, operational, and liability concerns associated with the current statutory framework governing Juvenile Probation Officers (JPOs). The central issue presented is the absence of explicit statutory authority for JPOs to detain, restrain, or transport juveniles, even momentarily, during the performance of their duties.

1. **Statutory Authority Concerns**

Presently, no statute grants JPOs the legal authority to conduct in-custody transports or detain juveniles. As a result, when JPOs must transport a juvenile—often due to limited law enforcement availability—they operate without clear legal backing. This gap places officers in a precarious position where necessary actions may constitute an unlawful seizure under constitutional standards.

2. **Liability and Civil Exposure**

Without statutory authority, JPOs and their agencies are exposed to significant liability under 18 U.S.C. § 1983. Any use of force, including interventions such as administering Narcan or deploying pepper spray, may be interpreted as an arrest or seizure. Courts assessing such incidents apply the *Graham v. Connor* standard.

If a JPO lacks lawful authority to detain or restrain an individual, they may fail the first requirement of the §1983 test—whether a constitutional right was violated—thereby eliminating protections normally provided by qualified immunity. This poses substantial financial risk to individual officers and to their counties.

3. **Training and POST Alignment**

While JPOs receive POST-level training and are expected to maintain proficiency, their statutory powers do not align with the training provided. This mismatch creates operational inconsistencies and increases risk exposure. The speaker has initiated discussions with POST trainers, IDC personnel, and partner agencies to evaluate necessary curriculum adjustments should statutory authority be expanded.

4. **Financial Impact and Local Flexibility**

Recognizing variations in agency resources across the state, the proposed legislation deliberately uses permissive “may” language rather than mandatory “shall.” This allows counties to voluntarily assume statutory authority based on their capacity and willingness, avoiding unfunded mandates and reducing undue financial burden.

5. **Purpose of the Legislation**

The legislation seeks to provide JPOs with clear statutory authority related solely to enforcing valid court orders and ensuring the safety of both officers and juveniles. It does not aim to grant broad arrest powers or shift JPOs into a law enforcement role. Jerimiah emphasized a continued preference for judicial oversight in detention decisions and reaffirmed opposition to any model that would permit unilateral officer-initiated detention actions.

6. **Risks of Inaction**

Should statutory deficiencies remain unaddressed, the matter is likely to be resolved through litigation and subsequent case law, which would pose greater exposure and uncertainty for JPOs and counties. Jerimiah expressed the intention to prevent avoidable legal precedents arising from operational necessity rather than deliberate policy.

7. **Next Steps**

The bill has been tabled until the next legislative session. During this period, Jerimiah intends to engage all with POST, IDC, county agencies, and legal advisors—to refine the proposal and ensure that all operational, financial, and legal concerns are addressed before the bill is reintroduced.

The administrators determined that legal counsel from IAC should be requested at the June meeting to address this matter.

• **Lael Hansen- Wellness Group**

Lael revisited a previous discussion about forming a workgroup focused on addressing the high-liability, high-stress nature of the profession. Although the idea was introduced at the last meeting, there was not sufficient statewide interest to justify establishing a formal workgroup at this time. However, through individual conversations, it became clear that several counties are already doing meaningful work in this area and are interested in continued dialogue. Lael emphasized the value of sharing effective practices across counties, noting examples such as Canyon County’s internal messaging, which could benefit others if communicated consistently statewide. While a formal workgroup will not be created currently, the topic will be revisited in the future if broader interest develops. Lael concluded by reinforcing the importance of self-care and mutual support within the profession.

- **Leahann Romero IDJC/Community, Operations, and Programs Services (COPS) Update**

IDJC/ COPS Updates- Leahann Romeo

The Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections is preparing for a transition as headquarters staff plans to relocate to the Chinden campus beginning in June 2026, with the move expected to take approximately six months. While there have been discussions about the potential sale of the current headquarters building, no decisions have been finalized. For now, the expectation is that staff will return to the Boise office once renovations are complete.

Looking ahead to fiscal year 2027, IDJC will have a permanent budget holdback. All budgets have been reviewed to ensure that the reduction does not impact direct services for youth in custody. During the initial holdback period, the COPS division temporarily paused mentoring services to evaluate financial impacts. That pause has now ended, and probation officers have been informed that applications are once again being accepted.

IDJC continues to expand training and standards work across the juvenile justice system. Several four-hour YLS booster trainings are currently available, and full eight-hour initial trainings will soon be offered. End users must complete the full training before administering assessments, and probation departments may contact Stace Gearhart at stace.gearhart@idjc.idaho.gov to obtain access.

Additionally, Marissa Evans is leading two new workgroups focused on juvenile probation and detention standards. After receiving strong interest from the field, she will convene selected members this fall to review JCA standards and develop recommendations for the IDJC Director.

- **PLAUD NOTE PRO use for notes on administrator meetings**

Suggestion to look into this system for note taking and transcribing the meetings to make it easier for the secretaries.

- **Clarification on Joint meeting (IACJJA/IACMPAA) for September 15th**

The 1 hour meeting will be split between the IACJJA (first half) and the IACMPAA (Second Half)

Important Dates:

Upcoming Meetings

- June 1st 2026, Nampa Civic Center (0900-1200) MST
- September 15th 2026 IJJA Conference, Nampa Idaho -Nampa Civic Center (1200-1300)MST
- December 3rd 2026 Ada County Juvenile Probation (0900-1200) MST
- Idaho Juvenile Justice Forum April 30th(Boise). May 12th(Idaho Falls), May 19th(Coeur d' Alene)

Upcoming Academy Dates

- July 9,2026 to July 31,2026- Juvenile Probation Academy #26 (Apply By 6/9/26)
- October 21,2026 to November 13, 2026- Juvenile Justice Academy #1 (Apply By 9/21/26)